

## Patent Abstracts of Japan

PUBLICATION NUMBER : 02178618  
PUBLICATION DATE : 11-07-90

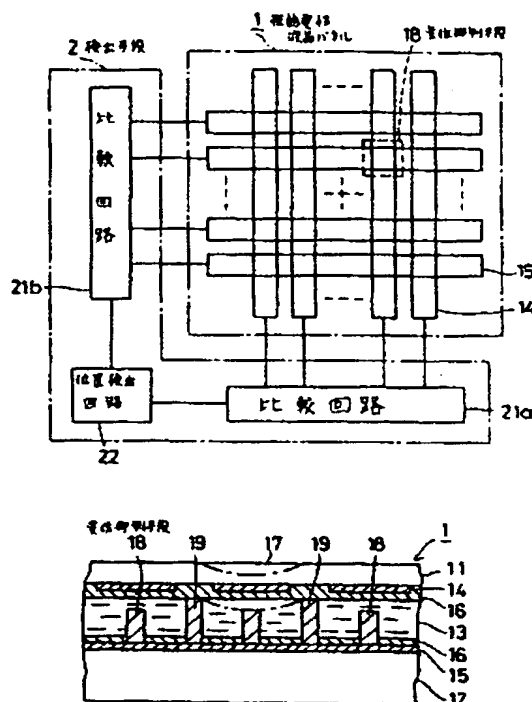
APPLICATION DATE : 29-12-88  
APPLICATION NUMBER : 63331192

APPLICANT : SEIKOSHA CO LTD;

INVENTOR : HIRAYAMA IWAO;

INT.CL. : G02F 1/133 G02F 1/133 G09F 9/00

TITLE : DEPRESSION DETECTING DEVICE



**ABSTRACT :** PURPOSE: To prevent a ferroelectric liquid crystal panel itself from being damaged when depressed and an electromotive force which is larger than required from being generated by providing the ferroelectric liquid crystal panel which has a depression part with a displacement inhibiting means which inhibits displacement due to the depression of the depression part and detecting the electromotive force generated when the depression part is pressed.

**CONSTITUTION:** When the depression part of an upper substrate 11 is pressed, an electromotive force is generated at the intersection part of an upper electrode 14 and a lower electrode 15 corresponding to the depression part. This electromotive force is inputted to comparing circuits 21a and 21b and compared with a specific comparison voltage. When the electromotive force is larger than the specific comparison voltage, a code indicating the upper electrode 14 or lower electrode 15 where the electromotive force is generated is sent out and a position detecting circuit 22 detects the depression position from the code. Then a stopper part is provided as the displacement inhibiting means 18 below the depression part 17 to prevent the upper substrate, etc., from deflecting by more than required when the depression part is depressed. Consequently, the panel itself is not damaged and an electromotive force which is larger than required is not generated to exert an adverse influence upon a detecting circuit.

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